

■新連載！ 渡会けいじが贈る青春グラフィティ！



CHAPTER 1 CROSSROADS

想像してみてください。

新連載！

渡会けいじ

天
棄
ロック
ゆう。

もう少し高く

上げる自分を。

PULLING
ME?

WHO'S...

AWAHORI-
SAN?

IZUMI!!!

IZUMI-CHAN!

SOMEONE
GET THE
TEACHER!

IZUMI-
CHAN!

THANK
YOUUUUUUU

ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT?

Saigou Noriko

Hey, Izumi!





"The Moon Cries for Mankind" (1993) by Kotagawa Asagiri















LET'S SEE
WHAT GOD
HAS TO SAY



WHAT
ABOUT
YOU?

IT'S GOOD I
KNOW, BUT KINDA
HARD TO GET
EXCITED ABOUT.

I GOT
FLEETING.





I'M PRETTY SURE
SOMEBODY SAID THAT
FORTUNES ONLY APPLY
TO THE MOMENT
YOU GET THEM, SO
YOUR LUCK'S ALREADY
GETTING BETTER
AS WE SPEAK!!

B-
BEE-
LYP

DON'T
WORRY,
IT'LL BE
FINE!!

THESE
THINGS
ARE ALL
TOTALLY
RANDOM
ANYWAY!!



SOUTH WEST...
SO... THAT MAY...
MAYBE.



WELL, WE
ALREADY
KNEW THAT.

"NO
CHANCE
OF
LOVE"

OH HEY,
IT SAYS
SOUTHWEST
IS A LUCKY
DIRECTION.



W-

WELL,
THERE'S GOTTA
BE SOMETHING
GOOD WRITTEN
ON THIS THING.









THAT
PERSON
OVER
THERE...

MOVING
-CHAN,



rub
rub
rub



Lure!!

Peach!

Cherry!



RIGHT THERE.
IN FRONT OF
THE FORD. I
THINK SHE'S
PLAYING
SOMETHING.

HMP
WHERE?



CHERRY
BLOSSOMS?



ALSO,
WHERE DID
THESE PETALS
COME FROM?

THEY
SHOULD'VE
ALL FALLEN
A LONG
TIME AGO



B-BUT
SHE'S
RIGHT
THERE.

S-STOP
SCARING ME...
THERE'S NO
ONE THERE.









IT'S A BIT
EASILY FOR
SWIMMING...

GOOD-
NEWS...



HEY.



YEAH...
I CAN...

IS THERE
SOMEONE
THREAT CAN
YOU SEE THEM?



YOU SPOKE
OF CHERRY
BLOSSOMS

WHEN YOU
HEARD
MY LOVE.



YOU
SAW.



SHE'S
TRYING
TO TALK
TO ME!

WH-WHAT'S
WRONG,
IZUMI?!



YOU
THERE,
GIRL.

!



DON'T TELL ME...!!





I DON'T
FANCY
ANOTHER
DIP IN THE
POND, SO
HERE.



WH-WHO
THE HECK
ARE YOU??

A PLEASEING
PRACTITION.



MOST DIS-
RESPECTFUL.

YOU CAME HERE TO PAY
RESPECTS TO
A GOD WHOSE
NAME YOU
DON'T EVEN
KNOW?

WELL
NOW...



I SHALL
ENLIGHTEN
YOU.



WELL,
IT IS OF NO
MATTER



the lone
flower of
the seven
lucky gods...

possessing
over the arts,
elegance, and
knowledge.





I am uka
bentaten,
guardian of
mount hebi
of the east
and shimobazu
pono.

though to
most, I am
known as the
goddess
benten.



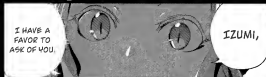


TSURUMAKI,
WOULD YOU
READ IT
INSTEAD?

OKAY.









A GOD IS
ASKING ME
FOR A
FAVOR...

BUT...

YOU
WAS
MAYBE
ON
YOUR
FACE

PROMISED*
THAT WAS
TOTALLY
YOU, SHE'S
ONE-SIDED
BAD NEWS.



AND...



SHE
WAS...
REALLY
PRETTY.



I REALLY
DON'T GET
WHERE YOUR
STANDARDS
COME FROM...



SORRY FOR
MAKING YOU
COME WITH ME,
NORIKO-CHAN

DO YOU
REALLY THINK
I COULDN'T
JUST LET
YOU GO BY
YOURSELF?



I BOOP
ON ONE
ONCE WHEN
I WAS
LITTLE...

I THINK THIS
IS MY FIRST
TIME ON A
SWAN BOAT

THE ONE
OF THE
BOATS AND
WENT ON
THE POND

IT WOULD BE
TROUBLESOME
IF SOMEONE SAW
YOU CONVERSING
TO THAT WHICH
THEY CANNOT SEE







HM...



I SUPPOSE I
SHOULD START
FROM THE
BEGINNING.

I WOULD
LIKE TO
EXPLAIN
WHY I AM
ASKING.

WELL,
OF COURSE,
BUT

WHY NOT
FROM THE THING
YOU WANTED TO
ASK ISUMI?



IT
HAPPENED
QUITE SOME
TIME AGO.

.....



FROM THE WAY YOU SAID IT, I WAS EXPECTING IT TO BE AT LEAST SEVERAL DECADES AGO!!

IT IS IN THE PAST, BUT STILL!

OH, THAT WAS ONLY A FEW YEARS AGO!!

IT WAS AROUND THE TIME BETWEEN THE 66 BRAZIL WORLD CUP AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN WORLD CUP.

AH YES,



IT WAS TO SAY THE LEAST I AM LEAST IN THE MATTER OF SPORTS AND MORE AS WELL

NOBODY ASKED FOR THAT!!

HUH?!

ARE GODS ONLY ABLE TO KEEP TRACK OF TIME USING EVENTS?!

GOING BY THE EVANGELION MOVIES, IT HAPPENED SOMETIME BETWEEN 1.0 AND 2.0.



THIS IS A STORY OF A GIRL.



Whenever
she came to
my shrine, she
would pray
for the same
thing without
fail.

She was
around the
same age
as you two,
maybe a
little older.

Quite a
shameless
request, isn't
it? I thought
much the same.

"Help me
become better
at playing
the guitar."



However,
she asked so
many times that
I could not help
but wonder what
spurred the urgency
of her requests.



*In any case,
it seemed to
contain music she
had written.*

*One day
she left some
sheet music...
or were they
guitar tabs?*



*After that,
I never saw
her again.*



*Perhaps it
was an offering.
I found it to
be charming.*

**I LEARNED
SHE HAD
DIED IN AN
ACCIDENT...**

*Some
time
later...*





SO VERY
MUCH.

I
REGRET
IT.



HER QUIET
PRAYERS
STILL ECHO
IN MY MIND..



A GOD, AND YET
UNABLE TO ALTER
THE FATE OF A
SINGLE HUMAN. IT
WAS INSULTING.







IZUMI.

SO...



YOU
NEED NOT
HIDE IT.

U-UM... NO,
I'M NOT...



YOU
POSSESS
A CERTAIN
TALENT.

IT IS HOW
YOU WERE
ABLE TO "SEE"
THE CHERRY
BLOSSOMS WHEN
I WAS PLAYING
MY LUTE.



HOWEVER, YOUR
TALENT IS OF A
DIFFERENT KIND.



IT IS A FORM
OF SYNESTHESIA
WHERE ONE
SEES CERTAIN
COLORS DEPENDING
ON THE SOUND
ONE HEARS.

ARE YOU
AWARE OF
CHROMESTHESIA?

A black and white manga-style illustration. In the center, a young girl with short dark hair, wearing a school uniform with a dark jacket and a pleated skirt, stands looking towards the left. To her left is a large, detailed elephant. In the background, a cityscape is visible with a tall skyscraper on the left and a bridge with a cross-shaped structure on the right. The scene is filled with a sense of surrealism and depth.

You take
the shape of
a sound and
give it form.

You hear
as though
you see.

That
is your
talent,
"Izumi.



MY REQUEST
IS TO BORROW
YOUR TALENT.



MY DESIRE
IS TO SEE
HER SONG
COMPLETED.



I WANT
YOU TO FINISH
THE REST OF
THE SONG.

....!!



MY
INSTINCTS
TELL ME
THAT...

BUT

I KNOW
THIS A
DELICIOUS
REQUEST.



NOT
GOOD

THEN
YOU MAY
START.

E-E... DON'T
KNOW HOW
TO PLAY THE
GUITAR



IT WILL
CREATE
SOMETHING
INCREDIBLE.

...SHOULD
YOUR TALENT
AND HER
SONG COME
TOGETHER,



...

DO YOU
ACCBPT?

WELL,
IZUMI?





I CAN'T
BELIEVE
YOU JUST
WENT AND
POSSESSED
ME!!

FORGIVE
ME.

I HAVE LITTLE
PATIENCE FOR
DRAWN-OUT
CONVERSATIONS.

I MEANT
NO HARM.

?

ANYWAY,
COME
WITH ME.

I WOULD
ADVISE YOU TO
TAKE MORE CARE,
LEST SOMETHING
YOU EVER TAKE
HOLD OF YOU.

BUT YOU
MADE IT OUT
EASY. YOU
LEAVE YOURSELF
TOO OPEN.



1000





NOW
FOR A
DEMON-
STRA-
TION.



ALL-
RIGHT.







*The guitar has 3333 strings with 3333 on it





THIRD,

FOURTH,

NEXT
IS THE
FIFTH...



A large, detailed close-up of a character with long, light-colored hair tied in a high ponytail with a large dark bow. The character has a determined expression, looking slightly to the side.

IZUMI.

AND
FINALLY
FIRST...

SECOND,

SEE.









...A
RING?



WHAT
DID YOU
SEE?



HARMONY.



CLOSE.



THIS IS
HER SONG.



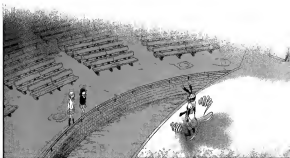


I CAN SEE SOMETHING?





THE
WHOLE
WORLD...





THE SONG
ENDS HERE.



ENTRUST
THE BEST
TO YOU.

I WANT
TO



SEE THE
WORLD
THROUGH
HARMONY.

AND WITH
THESE SIX
STRINGS...
REACH OUT TO
THE WORLD.

IF YOU
DESIRE IT,





IF you desire it,



reach out to the world.





I'LL
DO IT.

▶ 弁天ロックゆう。——1月号に続く◀